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## CLAIMS

### Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will **replace all prior** versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of cleaning comprising the steps of:  
selecting a substantially non-reactive, non-aqueous, non-oleophilic, apolar working fluid,  
~~said working fluid being selected from a group of non-spark-generating materials;~~  
selecting at least one washing adjuvant,~~said washing adjuvant being selected from a~~  
~~group of non-spark-generating materials;~~  
bringing said working fluid and adjuvant in contact with ~~the~~ fabric in an automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus;  
and applying mechanical energy to provide relative movement within said fabric in the automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus; and  
wherein the automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus comprises components which contact the working fluid and dissipate static charge.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said non-reactive, non-aqueous, non-oleophilic, apolar working fluid under standard conditions is further characterized by: a KB value less than approximately 30; a surface tension less than approximately 35 dynes/cm<sup>2</sup>; and a solubility in water less than 10%.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~in which the materials that comprise~~ wherein the components of the automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus contacted by said working fluid are coated with a coating comprising ~~are~~ conductive polymers to dissipate static charge.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said mechanical energy occurs in a chamber which confines said working fluid and the fabric.

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5. (Original) The method of claim 4 including the step of introducing a water-in-working fluid emulsion to the chamber which confines the fabric and said working fluid.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein at least one dispensing chamber is provided and adjuvant is added to said chamber.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 including the step of introducing a water-in-working fluid emulsion into the adjuvant-dispensing chamber.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 including the step of introducing a water-in-working fluid emulsion to the fabric prior to bringing the working fluid in contact with the fabric.
9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 including the step of detecting the level of said working fluid in contact with the fabric.
10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 including the step of sensing the initial moisture content of the fabric.
11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the temperature inside the chamber is sensed and adjusted to ensure that the temperature does not exceed 30°F below the flash point of said working fluid unless the concentration of said working fluid does not exceed its lower flammability limit.
12. (Original) A method of cleaning comprising the steps of:
  - selecting a substantially non-aqueous working fluid;
  - selecting at least one washing adjuvant;
  - placing the fabric in a chamber adapted to confine said working fluid and said fabric;
  - bringing said working fluid and adjuvant in contact with the fabric in the chamber, by introducing a water-in-working fluid emulsion into the chamber; and

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applying mechanical energy to provide relative movement of said fabric.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said working fluid is a non-reactive, non-aqueous, non-oleophilic, apolar working fluid.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said non-reactive, non-aqueous, non-oleophilic, apolar working fluid under standard conditions is further characterized by: a KB value less than approximately 30; a surface tension less than approximately 35 dynes/cm<sup>2</sup>; and a solubility in water less than 10%.
15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12 in which the materials of the chamber in contact with said working fluid are selected from a group of non-spark generating materials.
16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 in which the ~~fabrie~~ conduit contacted by said working fluid ~~are~~ comprise conductive polymers.
17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein at least one dispensing chamber is provided and adjuvant is added to said chamber.
18. (Original) The method of claim 12 including the step of introducing a water-in-working fluid emulsion to the fabric prior to bringing the working fluid in contact with the fabric.
19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12 including the step of detecting the level of said working fluid in contact with the fabric.
20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12 including the step of sensing the initial moisture content of the fabric.
21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the temperature inside the chamber is sensed and adjusted to ensure that the temperature does not exceed 30 °F below the flash

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point of said working fluid unless the concentration of said working fluid does not exceed its lower flammability limit.

22. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the washing adjuvant is selected from a group consisting of: builders, surfactants, enzymes, bleach activators, bleach catalysts, bleach boosters, bleaches, alkalinity sources, antibacterial agents, colorants, perfumes, pro-perfumes, finishing aids, lime soap dispersants, composition malodor control agents, odor neutralizers, polymeric dye transfer inhibiting agents, crystal growth inhibitors, photobleaches, heavy metal ion sequestrants, anti-tarnishing agents, anti-microbial agents, anti-oxidants, linkers, anti-redeposition agents, electrolytes, pH modifiers, thickeners, abrasives, divalent or trivalent ions, metal ion salts, enzyme stabilizers, corrosion inhibitors, diamines or polyamines or alkoxylates, suds stabilizing polymers, solvents, process aids, fabric softening agents, optical brighteners, hydrotropes, water, suds or foam suppressors, suds or foam boosters, fabric softeners, antistatic agents, dye fixatives, dye abrasion inhibitors, anti-crocking agents, wrinkle reduction agents, wrinkle resistance agents, soil release polymers, soil repellency agents, sunscreen agents, anti-fade agents and mixtures thereof.
23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein a preferred surfactant for the system will have a hydrophilic-lipophilic balance from approximately 3 to 14.
24. (Previously presented) A method of cleaning in an automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus comprising the steps of:
- selecting a substantially non-aqueous working fluid;
  - selecting at least one washing adjuvant;
  - sensing the initial moisture content of the fabric;
  - bringing said working fluid and adjuvant in contact with the fabric; and
  - applying mechanical energy to provide relative movement within said fabric.

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25. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein said non-aqueous working fluid is a non-reactive, non-aqueous, non-oleophilic, apolar working fluid.
26. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein said non-reactive, non-aqueous, non-oleophilic, apolar working fluid under standard conditions is further characterized by: a KB value less than approximately 30; a surface tension less than approximately 35 dynes/cm<sup>2</sup>; and a solubility in water less than 10%.
27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 in which the ~~materials that comprise~~ components of the automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus in contact with said working fluid dissipate static charge ~~are selected from a group of non-spark generating materials.~~
28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein said mechanical energy occurs in a chamber which confines said working fluid and the fabric.
29. (Original) The method of claim 28 including the step of introducing a water-in-working fluid emulsion to the chamber which confines the fabric and said working fluid.
30. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein the above sensing step is carried out by sensing the humidity of the fabric to be cleaned.
31. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein the above sensing step is carried out by sensing the conductivity of the fabric.
32. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein the above sensing step is carried out by sensing the humidity of the air.
33. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein the above sensing step is carried out inside the chamber.

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34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the temperature inside the chamber is sensed and adjusted to ensure that the temperature does not exceed 30 °F below the flash point of said working fluid unless the concentration of said working fluid does not exceed its lower flammability limit.
35. (Cancelled)
36. (Cancelled)
37. (Cancelled)
38. (Cancelled)
39. (Cancelled)
40. (Cancelled)
41. (Cancelled)
42. (Previously presented) A method of cleaning comprising the steps of:
- placing the fabric in a chamber adapted to confine said working fluid and said fabric;
  - sensing the initial moisture content of the fabric;
  - selecting a substantially non-aqueous working fluid, said working fluid being selected from a group of non-spark generating materials;
  - selecting at least one washing adjuvant from a group consisting of: builders, surfactants, enzymes, bleach activators, bleach catalysts, bleach boosters, bleaches, alkalinity sources, antibacterial agents, colorants, perfumes, pro-perfumes, finishing aids, lime soap dispersants, composition malodor control agents, odor neutralizers, polymeric dye transfer inhibiting agents, crystal growth inhibitors, photobleaches, heavy metal ion sequestrants, anti-tarnishing

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agents, anti-microbial agents, anti-oxidants, linkers, anti-redeposition agents, electrolytes, pH modifiers, thickeners, abrasives, divalent or trivalent ions, metal ion salts, enzyme stabilizers, corrosion inhibitors, diamines or polyamines or alkoxylates, suds stabilizing polymers, solvents, process aids, fabric softening agents, optical brighteners, hydrotropes, water, suds or foam suppressors, suds or foam boosters, fabric softeners, antistatic agents, dye fixatives, dye abrasion inhibitors, anti-crocking agents, wrinkle reduction agents, wrinkle resistance agents, soil release polymers, soil repellency agents, sunscreen agents, anti-fade agents and mixtures thereof;

said washing adjuvant being selected from a group of non-spark generating materials;  
bringing said working fluid and adjuvant in contact with the fabric in the chamber, by introducing a water-in-working fluid emulsion into the chamber; and  
applying mechanical energy to provide relative movement of said fabric.

43. (Original) The method of claim 42 wherein said working fluid consists of a non-reactive, non-aqueous, non-oleophilic, apolar working fluid under standard conditions, said working fluid further being characterized by: a KB value less than approximately 30; a surface tension less than approximately 35 dynes/cm<sup>2</sup>; and a solubility in water less than 10%.
44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43 in which the materials of the chamber contacted by said working fluid are conductive polymers.
45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 wherein the temperature inside the chamber is sensed and adjusted to ensure that the temperature does not exceed 30 °F below the flash point of said working fluid unless the concentration of said working fluid does not exceed its lower flammability limit.
46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43 wherein a preferred surfactant for the system will have a hydrophilic-lipophilic balance from approximately 3 to 14.

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47. (Original) The method of claim 42 including the step of introducing a water-in-working fluid emulsion to the chamber which confines the fabric and said working fluid.
48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 42 including the step of detecting the level of said working fluid in contact with the fabric.
49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 42 wherein the temperature inside the chamber is sensed and adjusted to ensure that the temperature does not exceed 30 °F below the flash point of said working fluid unless the concentration of said working fluid does not exceed its lower flammability limit.
50. (Currently amended) The method of claim 42 wherein a preferred surfactant for the system will have a hydrophilic-lipophilic balance from approximately 3 to 14.
51. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the working fluid is selected from a group of a non-spark generating materials and the adjuvant is selected from a group of non-spark generating materials.
52. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus comprises conduit which contacts the working fluid, the conduit being capable of dissipating static charge.
53. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the drum and tubing are coated with a conductive polymer to dissipate static charge.
54. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
drying the fabric; and  
bleeding air into the automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus during drying.



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55. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of bleeding electrons into the automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus.

56. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further includes the step of increasing the humidity within the automatic consumer-operated laundering apparatus to decrease static build-up.

57. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the method further comprises the step of removing water from the fabric prior to bringing the fabric in contact with the working fluid and adjuvant.

58. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the method further comprises the step of removing water from the fabric prior to bringing the fabric in contact with the working fluid and adjuvant.

59. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the method further comprises the step of removing water from the fabric prior to bringing the fabric in contact with the working fluid and adjuvant.

60. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the method further comprises the step of removing water from the fabric prior to bringing the fabric in contact with the working fluid and adjuvant.